

TREASURE

OUR

Wisconsin

COASTS

and

ESTUARIES

WISCONSIN'S COASTAL ZONE INCLUDES COASTAL REACHES BORDERING LAKE MICHIGAN, GREEN BAY, AND LAKE SUPERIOR, AS WELL AS SEVERAL ISLANDS IN DOOR COUNTY AND THE APOSTLE ISLANDS NEAR BAYFIELD. THESE REGIONS ARE OF VITAL ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE TO THE STATE: THE STATE'S PORTS HANDLE MILLIONS OF TONS OF CARGOES; LAKE MICHIGAN AND LAKE SUPERIOR ARE HOME TO A GROWING NUMBER OF PUBLIC ACCESS PARKS AND MARINAS, AND A BOOMING COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL FISHING INDUSTRY. THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA) PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN THE ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL VALUE OF WISCONSIN'S COASTAL AREAS. THIS LAW, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA), RECOGNIZES A NATIONAL INTEREST IN OUR COASTAL AND OCEAN AREAS. IT ALLOWS STATES AND TERRITORIES, NOT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO BALANCE CONSERVATION OF THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT WITH HUMAN USES THAT DEPEND ON COASTAL RESOURCES.

miles of coastline
820

coastal population in 2000
1,992,393

fy03 czma core (section 306)
funding
\$2,000,000

fy03 czma enhancements
(section 309) funding
\$193,000

fy03 coastal nonpoint
implementation
\$263,000

THE CZMA IN WISCONSIN

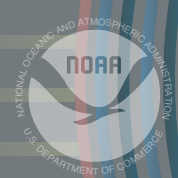
The CZMA establishes programs to balance the use and protection of America's coasts. The Coastal Management Program gives states a flexible framework to address a broad range of community development, economic, and natural resource issues at the state and local level.

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

Approved: 1978

Lead Agency: Department of Administration

Coastal management means achieving a balance between natural resources preservation and economic development along our Great Lakes coasts. To balance competing uses of its Great Lakes coast, Wisconsin's coastal program encourages awareness and protection of coastal wetlands; offers solutions to shoreline erosion and polluted runoff, primarily from agricultural sources; promotes greater public access to the shoreline; and works to resolve



threats to water quality from failing septic systems. The coastal program works with existing programs in six state agencies to ensure the state's coastal policies are met in decision-making processes.

Accomplishments of Wisconsin's coastal programs include:

- *making more than \$50 million in coastal improvements since 1985 in Wisconsin's coastal counties with an investment of \$9 million in CZMA funding to local governments to address such issues as land use planning and waterfront redevelopment.*
- *directing approximately 70% of its funding under the CZMA for local projects, such as the restoration of a severely deteriorated urban river bank in Milwaukee in partnership with local organizations and state agencies.*
- *utilizing \$5.686 million in Great Lakes Coastal restoration grant funding to support coastal restoration and land acquisition projects. These projects leveraged \$12 million of habitat improvements along Wisconsin's coasts.*
- *acting as a leader in coastal educational activities by producing a Great Lakes Chronicle and a half-hour episode of the weekly television series Discover Wisconsin. These activities promote awareness throughout the region of Wisconsin as a coastal state with dozens of sites to explore on two Great Lakes.*
- *reaching full program approval for Wisconsin's coastal nonpoint pollution control program.*

PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Council sets the policy direction for the Coastal Program. The Governor appoints the broad-based council to represent state agencies, local governments, the general public, and Indian tribes with an interest in coastal issues. The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program staffs the Council and administers the program.

Since 1996, the state coastal program has joined with state agencies and regional and local counterparts in a "Coastal Hazards Work Group" to find tools and strategies that help state and local governments address Wisconsin's high rate of bluff erosion and prevent property damage from occurring.

As the primary state agency liaison to the Wisconsin Harbor Towns Association the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program advocates for, and informs coastal communities on environment (lake levels and beach health) and promotion/redevelopment (marketing and recreational infrastructure improvements).